



MT. ZION
M.B. CHURCH
Established 1885

Our Church History (1900–2025)

During the years **1885 to 2025**, a Baptist mission was organized on South Wall Street in Sioux City, Iowa.

On **September 9, 1900**, a group of Christians met with **Reverend A. M. Colston** of Des Moines for the purpose of organizing a church. On **October 8, 1900**, Reverend Colston and two local white ministers met with this mission group, and the first **Negro Baptist Church** was organized in Sioux City, Iowa. It was voted by the body that the church should be known as “**Mount Zion Baptist Church.**” Reverend A. M. Colston was called as the first pastor.

This group rented a church from the **Swedish Lutheran Church** at West 6th and Bluff Streets.

In **1902**, the church was incorporated and the building at West 6th and Bluff was purchased.

During the years **1902 to 1919**, the members worked hard and diligently under approximately twelve different ministers, persevering even through **World War I**.

In **1919–1920**, a few of the members left Mt. Zion and organized a church on the east side of the city.

On **Sunday, June 26, 1932**, under the pastorage of **Reverend George A. Burke**, the congregation marched from West 6th and Bluff to the present location at **1421 Geneva Street**, purchased from the Mayflower Organization.

In **1945**, the church purchased the parsonage at **316 West 15th Street**. Under several able pastors, Mount Zion endured **World War II**, the **Korean War**, and **Vietnam**.

In **July 1978**, **Reverend Floyd E. Brown** accepted the call to Mount Zion Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the church purchased the parsonage at **2537 West 20th Street**. Reverend Brown served faithfully for **37 years**.

From **October 2016 to 2024**, **Reverend Jeremy F. Robertson Sr.** served as the **23rd Pastor** of Mt. Zion MBC.

In **January 2023**, Reverend Robertson Sr. led the church to its current facility at **1400 Pierce Street**, where we are now located. He resigned in 2024.

The church was without a pastor for one year.

On **April 11, 2025**, **Reverend Robert N. Lauderdale Sr.** was called as the **24th Pastor** of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church. He came working the vision—physically, on the inside and outside of this facility; mentally and spiritually, on the minds and hearts of the people. God allowed him to do this even before he was officially installed as pastor.

Even now, “**Fixing What’s Broken to Build Back Better**” is the church’s working theme. Pastor Lauderdale is doing exactly what God has instructed him to do!

We thank God for these **125 years** of ups and downs, of faith and progress.

We, the people, are still rejoicing.